

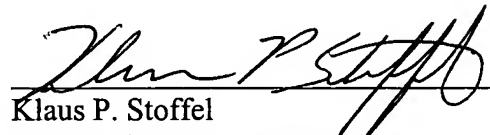
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present amendment is submitted prior to the issuance of a first Office Action and simultaneously with the filing of the present application.

With this amendment applicants have amended the specification and the abstract, canceled claims 1-15 and added new claims 16-37, all in an effort to place the application in better condition for examination.

Favorable action on the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Klaus P. Stoffel
Registration No.: 31,668
OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP
1180 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-8403
Telephone: (212) 382-0700

KPS:lac